



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# County Committee Election

## Nominate and vote for farmers of your choice

### ***You and Your Committee***

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help run FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers who serve on committees help decide the kind of programs their counties will have and how they will run. They make FSA agricultural programs fit the needs of local producers.

Committees make decisions on:

- commodity price support loans and payments;
- establishment of allotments, yields, and marketing quotas;
- farmer loans;
- conservation programs;
- incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for some commodities; and
- other farm disaster assistance.

FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws. Committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

### ***Important Dates***

August 16, 2002

Request nomination forms from the local FSA office and begin nominations.

October 28, 2002

Last day to file nomination forms.

November 19, 2002

Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

December 2, 2002

Last day to return voted ballots.

January 1, 2003

Elected committee members and alternates take office.

### ***Who Can Vote***

Farm owners, operators, tenants, and sharecroppers of legal voting age can vote if they are eligible to take part in any FSA program. Check with your local FSA office for voting requirements.

### ***Nominations***

A nomination form signed by the nominee is needed to nominate a farmer-candidate. The form includes a statement that the candidate agrees to serve if elected.

Nomination forms must be received in the local office by October 28.

Almost anyone eligible to take part in a local FSA program may be a candidate for the committee.

### ***Don't Miss Out on Voting***

The 2002 election will end December 9. Ballots will be mailed to voters by November 19 and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 2.

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